FREE INDIA

36th Year Of Publication ★ December 15, 1974 ★ 20 Paise

RECEIVED ON 18 DEC 1974

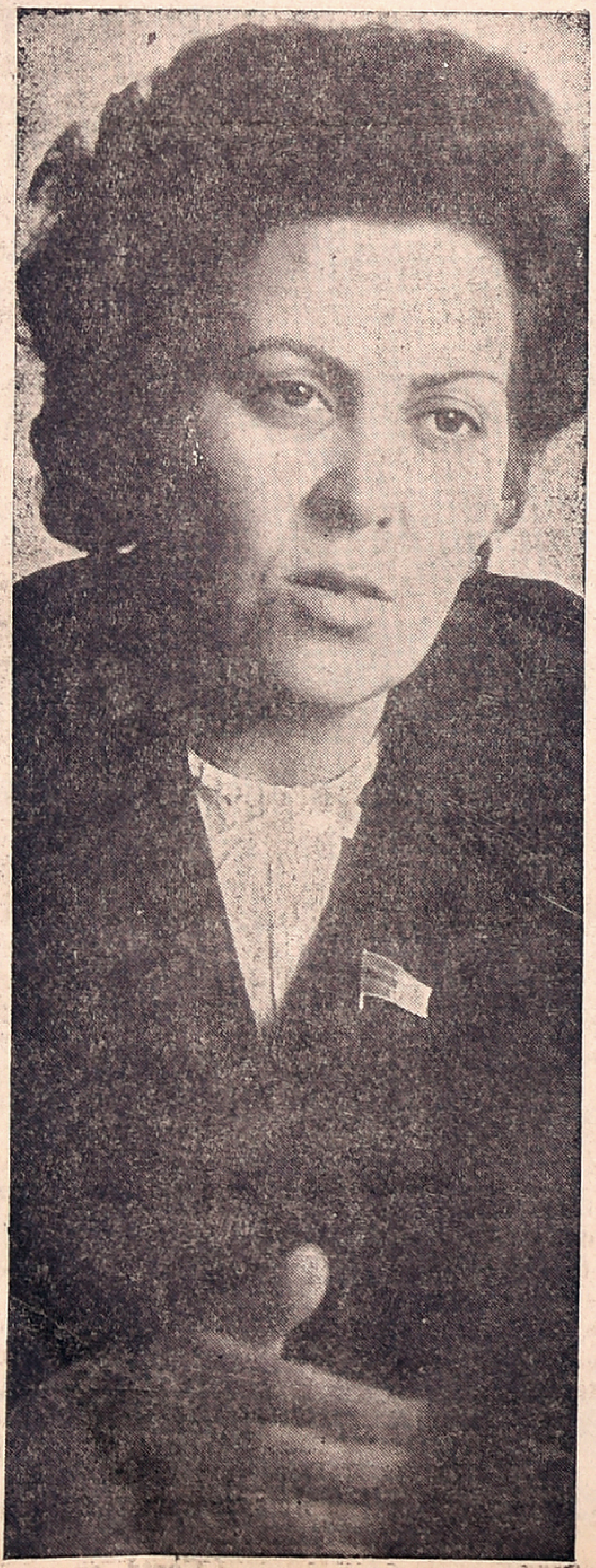
A herd of cows grazing in a field. They are scions of the famous Kristofera IV variety. Each one of them is said to yield about 3.5 to 4 metric tons of milk annually.

SOUTH INDIA'S FINEST PICTORIAL WEEKLY

In a family-circle.

Extra--Curricular Lesson

By LYUDMILA IVANOVA



Vera Odobesku, Vice-President of the Presidium of the Moldavian Supreme Soviet.

"Work is the only hall mark of true nobleness," said Romain Rolland. These words I heard at the French language lesson at Vocational School No. 3 in the city of Kishinev. This school gives its students the ten-year general education as well as training in shoe-cutting and instrument-making.

In addition to the main subjects like literature, physics, chemistry, a foreign language and lessons in a speciality, the students get extra-curricular lessons known as "Meetings with Advanced Workers". The best workers of Kishinev give these lessons free of charge because they consider it their social duty.

On the day of my visit to the school, Vera Odobesku, a cutter, was the young people's guest.

The girls asked Vera why she had selected her speciality, how much they would get when they went to work at the shoe factory after leaving school, if the factory had a hostel, and how long they would have to study after graduation to become real masters of their trade.

Vera answered their first questions, in detail. She said that the wages at the factory were high, (double the amount she used to get when she had just come to the factory), that the factory had a new hostel with rooms for two, and the cost of accommodation there was only one rouble

(Contd. on page 11)

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Cauvery Agreement

Forerunner In Settling River Water Disputes

THE tripartite accord on the establishment of a common authority for the apportioning of the Cauvery river waters and their utilisation by the riparian states of Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu, should be considered a major breakthrough in the efforts towards the settlement of other river-water disputes in the country says a report in the Mainstream.

It further says: The agreement to set up the proposed Cauvery Valley Authority will, thus, be the pace-setter in ending the almost interminable wrangle in regard to the utilisation of the waters of inter-State rivers like the Narmada, Godavari, Krishna and Tungabhadra. The termination of these disputes will remove the unconscionable, man-made obstacles in the way of the development of the irrigation schemes that are urgently required for agriculture and augmenting of food production. The resolution of the differing viewpoints will enable vast areas, now affected and destroyed by drought, to be supplied with life-giving waters.

OPTIMISTIC

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister has said in Madras that the talks held in Delhi under the aegis of the Union Government, were based generally on ensuring water to established ayacuts, mordernisation of irrigation techniques for economic utilisation, the excess waters thus saved to be shared by the concerned States, and the establishment of a Cauvery Valley Authority with an official of the Union Government as Chairman and the chief engineers of the three concerned States as members.

Chief Ministers of Karnataka and Kerala have also expressed views about the Delhi talks which are sufficiently optimistic to give the impression that the formal signing of the accord between the three States would be completed before the year is out.

What is of significance is that the three Chief Ministers belonging to three different political parties have been able to evolve a consensus on this vexatious problem. Such an understanding has not been possible over the Narmada waters even when all the three concerned Chief Ministers of Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan belonged to the Congress party.

CONFLICTING CLAIMS

At one stage it looked as though a confrontation was inevitable between Karnataka and Tamil Nadu over the long-standing feud over the sharing of the Cauvery waters. Tamil Nadu had accused Karnataka of a "scorched-earth" policy by stopping the inflow into Kabini in upper Karnataka catchment through a newly built storage reservoir. Over 13 tmcft of waters claimed by Tamil Nadu had been impounded by Karnataka, and the standing samba paddy crop in over 7,00,000 acres could wither away as a result of this action.

Karnataka refuted the charge saying that the offset dam it had built on the Kabini only ensured its already established rights on its shares of Cauvery waters. The various political parties in both the States endorsed in toto the conflicting claims made by their respective States, adding a political dimension to the already difficult problem.

SUCCESSFUL CONFERENCE

The conference convened by Union Agriculture Minister Jagjivan Ram, however, proved a success in reconciling the various interests. The suggestion made two years ago by Kerala Chief Minister C. Achutha Menon that the whole problem should be approached from the angle of a 'common authority" for the entire Cauvery basin became the basis of the bid to end the deadlock.

This proposal was accepted by all the three Chief Ministers. A Cauvery Valley Authority on the model of the Damodar Valley Corporation was accepted as offering the most rational solution to the problem.

The details of the CVA are yet to be worked out. But there has been general agreement on creating such an authority. The immediate objectives have also been spelt out.

The Authority should protect the irrigation rights of the existing ayacuts in all the three States. It should explore methods for optimum and economic utilisation of the Cauvery waters in the "entire basin", unmindful of the political frontiers of the States concerned. The water saved would be used in all the three States without impinging on the interests of one another.

IN RIGHT DIRECTION

The Chief Ministers of Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Kerala who had endorsed the blueprint of the Cauvery Valley Authority are not over-optimistic about the step taken. At the same time they are certain now of its

(Contd. on page 10)

Krushchev Remembers

The second volume of controversial Krushchev's memoirs has been published recently in the United States.

As in the case of the first volume, it is a transcript of tape recordings. The publishers, it is learnt, have left no stone unturned in veryfying and confirming beyond doubt that the voice on the tapes belonged to the former premier of Soviet Union, Nikitov Krushchev.

His views on some topics are published below:

On freedom of expression: "You can't regulate the development of literature, art, and culture with a stick or by barking orders...If you try to control your artists too tightly, there will be no clashing of opinion, consequently no criticism, and consequently no truth."

On freedom of travel: "I think the time has come to give every Soviet citizen that choice. If he wants to leave our country and live somewhere else for a while, all right; we should give him that opportunity. It's incredible to me that after 50 years of Soviet power, paradise should be kept under lock and key."

On varieties of communism: "My experience with Comrade Tito showed me that there are different ways of going about the building of socialism There's no single model or mold which fits all the countries of the world. To think that there is is just plain stupid."

On restraint in armament: "I believe an important part of our military doctrine should be that we not try to compete with our adversaries in every area where they are ahead of us; as long as we preserve our nuclear deterrent, we will be defending our country effectively."

Source: *C. S. Monitor*

THUS SPAKE
THE MAHATMA

Realest things are only relatively so. For me the Voice was more real than my own existence. It has never failed me, or for that matter, anyone else. And everyone who wills can hear the Voice.

ASOKA SCENTED BETEL NUT POWDER

Free India

SUNDAY Dec. 15, 1974.

FCI HAVOC

The main obstacle to India's gigantic efforts to solve the food problem seems to be the Food Corporation of India.

Many complaints have been made against the F.C.I. Its incompetancy to discharge the duties assigned to it is notorious. The latest report about its handling of foodgrains at the Madras harbour is really shocking.

The FCI, according to newspaper reports, has incurred a demurrage of nearly one crore of rupees due to heavy delays in clearing foodships at the Madras Port during the last six months.

The reports add that about rupees seventyfive lakhs had to be paid in foreign exchange for failing to discharge 1500 tonnes per day as per the Charter of Parity Agreement concluded with foreign ship owners.

The FCI has also incurred a demurrage of Rs. 10 lakhs for delayed handling of fertilizer vessels during the last six months.

Wrong phasing of ship's arrivals, non-availability of adequate number of railway wagons, lack of labour force are the usual excuses offered. The absurdity of these will be exposed if one remembers the speed with which the private traders cleared the railway goods yards recently when the Government threatened to seize the goods.

The demurrage paid will be quietly passed on to the consumer. It is surprising that the Government which firmly resists the humble plea of the producers for a small increase in the procurement price just watches helplesaly the havoc being perpetrated by FCI.

A Truce Between The Sexes?

"DO men take women seriously? Do women take men seriously?" A particularly brave friend has been going around, handing out this little quiz like a ticking time bomb. Certainly the double-question itself must be taken seriously. For it seems to express the doubt that underlies all the doubts about just how things stand between men and women in the '70's.

In the less brave, more hem-and-haw style of scholarship, a couple of professional researchers have been sidling up to the same general question. Anne Steinmann and David J. Fox, hoped to learn not only if men take women seriously but if women *think* men take them seriously, and vice versa.

With this respectably subtle aim, they interviewed 23 000 women (10 000 in the United States, 13,000 in 17 other countries) and 7,000 men. Their summary, upon collating their massive "Inventory of Feminine Values" and "Inventory of Masculine Values": Both men and women are "in a state of transition," a notion that occurred to the Lone Pollster about 29,992 interviews earlier. Well, what is intuition for?

The Lone Pollster also anticipated at least one other Steinmann-Fox theory, which might be described as the Polonius Dilemma. "To thine own self be true," Polonius advised. But the more one does this—the more that is, one takes oneself seriously—the more one will displease the other sex, or so both men and women appear to believe.

The news—the good news—of the Steinmann-Fox report is that the Polonius Dilemma may exist mostly in the head.

* * *

Women, disliking themselves for being "passive, submissive" but suspecting, resentfully, that men prefer them that way, will find they are mistaken, at least if the men interviewed are to be believed.

Men, wanting to be "more aggressive, more individual" than they are, but fearing that this inclinaton would type them as male-chauvinist-pigs, will discover a majority of women on record as wanting "strong, self-assertive" men.

What a tragicomedy ! — to be divided between pleasing yourself and pleasing others, or rather, imagining that you are. It is as if one cannot be at the same time a man and a Husband and a Father ; a woman and a Wife and a Mother. "When do I get my turn to be myself?" In all its ludicrousness, in all its plaintiveness, this classic question echoes behind the questions that began this column.

The considerable value of the Steinmann-Fox report may rest in its assurance that role-playing is not necessary—that men and women agree upon their concepts of the ideal man, the ideal woman, far more than they realize. The problem is not a matter of two rather blurred self-images moving toward a third alternative. Both men and women are recching for an identity that transcends what used to be thought of as their "sexual identity."

A more accurate wording of the original questions might read : ' Do men take seriously the feminine element in themselves? Do women take seriously the masculine element in themselves?" At this point, the potential relationship between men and women becomes not just a hope of solving loneliness but a dream of rectifying a fundamental incompleteness.

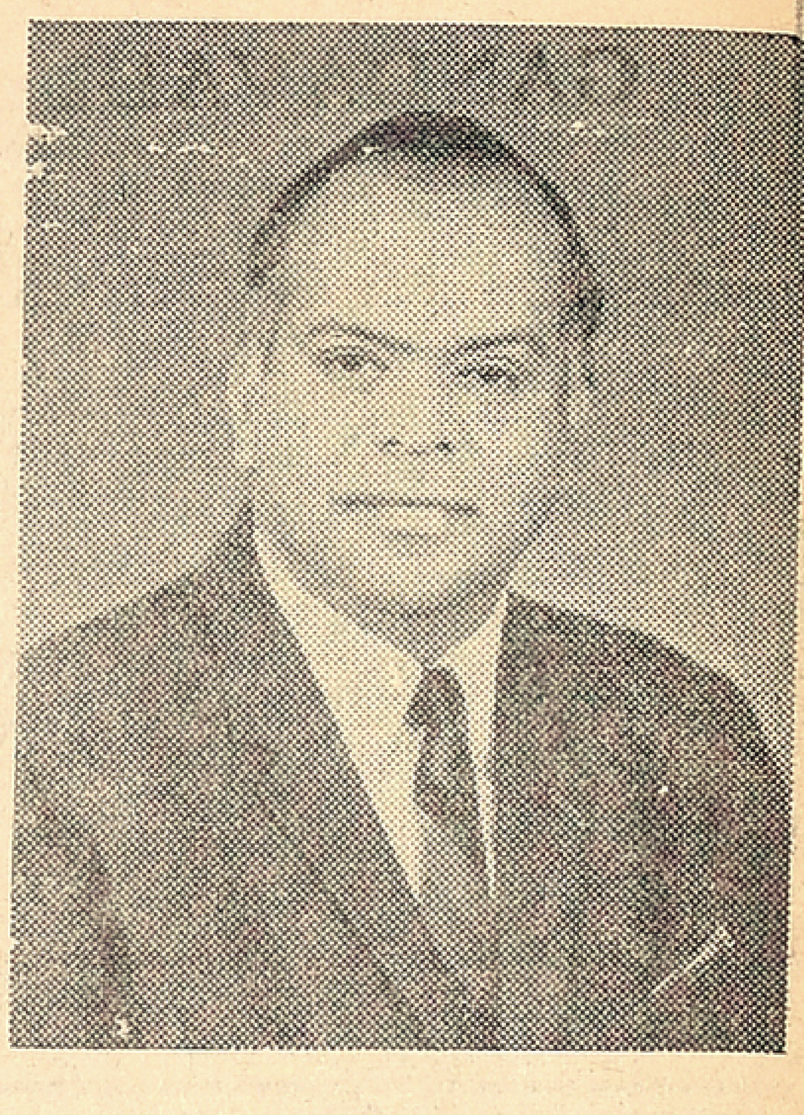
* * *

"The Male Dilemma" Dr. Steinmann and Dr. Fox call the book in which they report their findings (Jason Aronson $1,50).

"Every major change in the relative status of men and women during the last 50 years," they write, bending over backwards, "has brought women freedom and power undreamed of even by the early crusaders for women's rights." Man "has been told he must move over, but no one has bothered to tell him where or how."

Such attempts to be fair—to make a common predicament rather than a partisan encounter out of the infamous men-women crisis—may come closer to defining the problem, if not its resolution. In fact, perhaps the best answer to the Lone Pollster is another question : Unless men can take women seriously and women can take men seriously, how can they take themselves seriously ?

—*C. S. Monitor*



New Sheriff Of Madras

Mr. M.A.M. Ramaswamy has been appointed Sheriff of Madras for the second time. He was the Sheriff previously during the year 1972.

Mr. Ramaswamy comes from an illustrious family of industrialists and philonthrophists.

Mr. Ramaswamy, 43, is the son of Dr. Rajah Sir M.A. Muthiah Chettiar of Chettinad and the grandson of Dr. Rajah Sir Annamalai Chettiar, founder of the Annamalai University. He is the younger brother of the late Kumara Rajah M.A.M. Muthiah Chettiar.

He is associated with a number of leading industries in various capacities. He is the Managing Director of Chettinad Cement Corporation Ltd., Chairman of South India Structural Corporation Ltd., and is a Director of Tamil Nadu Industrial Investment Corporation Ltd., The Madura Coats Ltd., and the Chettinad Plantations Private Ltd.

Apart from managing the industries he is associated, he takes keen interest in the welfare of the industrial and commercial community as a whole. He served the business community as President of Southern India Chamber of Commerce for two terms in 1971 and 1972. At present he is a committee member of the Chamber of Commerce.

He is a good sportsman and takes keen interest in the development of sports in Tamil Nadu. He is the president of the Tamil Nadu State Lawn Tennis Association and Tamil Nadu Badminton Association. He is the Chairman and Senior Steward of the Madras Race Club. He is Vice President of the Tamil Nadu State Sports Council and the State Hockey Association. He is also the Vice President of the All India Lawn Tennis Association

He is the Patron-in Chief of Sports Writers Club and president of Suguna Vilasa Sabha.

Inspite of all his business and cultural activities, he manages to devote some time to social work also. He is the patron of the St. John Ambulance Association He is a Trustee of the Tamil Nadu Educational Trust, the Willingdon Charitable Trust and Pachaiappa's Trust Board.

"Urban Ore"—Energy Source Of The Future?

By EUGENE SOCHOR

BURN your trash and save on fuel—here is a heart-warming thought for the winter days.

The trash pile is viewed as an important source of energy for the future in a UNESCO paper for a working group on Fundamental World Energy Problems, meeting in Tokyo. Solid waste is in fact a more source of energy than the seas and oceans and the wind.

"Not all the alternative energy sources need be exotic," the UNESCO report notes. "There will be increased use of sewage, garbage, agricultural and other solid waste in energy generation." Systems will vary in technology, sophistication from simple, familysize units involving the production of methane from human and animal waste, to village and community sewage plants in which methane is obtained from the decomposition of algae, and technology-intensive methods for mining the refuse of major population centres.

The latter system calls for the trash to pass through a shredder to separate metals, glass, rock and clay from the rest of the refuse. What is left is a low-cost, lowpolluting fuel with a heat value roughly half that of coal. It can be stored, shipped and burned at will. More advanced systems will separate ferrous metals, pulling out and sorting glass, as well as such non-ferrous metals as aluminium.

BIG BOOST

The use of solid waste as energy has already been given a big boost by the U S. Environmetal Protection Agency (EPA) which recently calculated that in large U.S. cities trash could provide electricity to home and commercial establishments all year round. The total energy generated each year by this big city waste, the EPA pointed out, would be the equivalent of million barrels of oil.

"If the burning is accompanied by recovery of the metals, glass, rubber and other items for recycling, there would be an additional energy saving equal to 30 million barrels a year." explained Arsen Darnay, EPA's top expert on solid wastes, in a recent interview. The reason for this is that it normally takes less energy to manufacture a product using secondary materials, such as scrap-iron or steel, than to make it with the virgin materials counterpart, such as iron ore.

Darnay listed 21 cities, including such large urban areas as New York, Chicago, Philadelphia and Detroit, where plans to burn trash as an auxiliary fuel to produce electricity have either been adopted or are under serious consideration. Some of the plans are modelled on an EPA-supported demonstration in St. Louis which handles about 200 tons of refuse a day. Shredded trash is burned with pulverized coal to generate electricity.

On an even larger scale, the state of Connecticut has announced plans to convert all the state's household and commercial garbage into low-sulphur fuels for electricity generating plants and commercially saleable scrap iron, aluminium and glass. By 1980, this scheme, described as the first of its type in the world will be funneling the 10,000 tons of refuse produced daily in the state's 169 towns and cities into 10 regional treatment centres, replacing hundreds of polluting incinerators and dumps.

RENEWABLE SOURCES

Looking ahead on a world scale, the UNESCO paper stressed the importance of applying science and technology to improve the use of fuels and minimize pollution. In this respect, the most important sources of energy will be renewable ones—nuclear fusion, solar energy and the thermal energy of the oceans.

As regards nuclear fusion, the UNESCO paper notes a new wave of optimism after the period of pessimism and disappointment which followed the early hopes of the 1950's. Investigators are now shifting focus from pure science to engineering and this has raised a new problem—the design of nuclear fusion reactors and power stations.

In solar energy—the subject of a big UNESCO sponsored conference in 1973. technology is advancing rapidly, but the question of costeffectiveness is still not settled. Except for limited success achieved in home heating and in space vehicles, where cost is not a major problem, solar power, until recently, seemed like a mirage. Scientists and engineers must now concentrate on achieving greater conversion efficiency so as to bring solar energy into wide use at competitive prices. At present, the most promising approaches developed are photovoltaic conversion and solar-thermal conversion with heat storage for night-time operation. The UNESCO study makes a cautious appraisal: "Optimists claim widespread commercial solar power could be a reality around the year 1990, but for many scientists this still seems a much more remote possibility."

Another promising field of investigation is thermal power from the oceans. At the end of the last century, the French physicist, Jacques d' Arsonval, suggested that a heat engine, operating between the warm upper layers and the cold water of the deep, could produce a huge amount of power. It has been estimated that the tropical oceans could supply the whole world with energy at U.S. per capita rate of consumption for 1970 and suffer only a one degree C. drop in temperature. So far, however, none of the technologies suggested for generating this power have been successful, and a way still has to be found to transfer the energy from the sea to the shore.

Mindful of the fact that 45 international organizations and scores of national agencies are directly concerned with power or with techniques appropriate to power production, UNESCO is preparing plans for the exchange and development of scientific experience in this field. As a first step, it will organize, early in 1975, an international forum of scientists and engineers to pinpoint problems requiring international action. A special series of publications on world energy problem is also foreseen.

An international conference on the use of garbage for power is not yet foreseen—but as fuel prices go up and sources become scarce, it cannot be far away.

(UNESCO FEATURES)

New Clothing

Disposable clothing is now being used in many chemical, nuclear and food plants and hospitals, where conventional clothing is demaged by paints, chemicals, or contaminants. The challenge of the market has been to make the clothing durable, tear-free, snag-and puncture-proof and washable, but still disposable and inexpensive.

Now a Texas firm is selling a line of garments called Durafab Disposables which meets these requirements. Included in the selection are bouffant caps, shoe covers, smocks, aprons, pants and shirts, coveralls, lab coats, slicker suits, butcher smocks, respirator hoods and nuclear coveralls.

Opaque Durafab made by Durfab Disposables in Cleburne, Texas is waterproof, acid resistant, treated with a soluble anti-static agent. It is virtually lint-free, ideal for clean rooms, laboratories and electronic component manufacturing, according to the producer. The garments can be laundered many times.

The clothing can be purchased in a variety of colours, from fluorescent (safety) orange, to blue, green, yellow and white. Durafab is also inexpensive.

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THE ALTERNATIVE

A man applied for the vacant post of caretaker of a church, but when it was discoved that he was illite-ra'e his application was turn-ed down. So he got a job elsewhere, and in ten years he had made a fortune.

Finding himself for the moment short of cash, he went to a bank, explained his position to the manager, who knew of his success, and asked for a loan of £10,000.

"Certainly," said the manager, "Just make out a note for the amount."

"Sorry," confessed the other, "but I cannot read or write."

The banker stared at him in amazement.

"Well, well!" he said. "And yet, handicapped in such a way, you've become a rich man! I wonder what you'd have been by now if only you had been able to read and write?"

"A caretaker," said the other modestly.

THE LATIN TOUCH

A very pretty redhead, shopping on Fifth Avenue, was being followed by a smooth Latin type.

At Sloane's she turned on him indignant. "You've been following me for three blocks—I saw you. You can stop right now. I'm not the type of girl you can pick up."

The Latin bowed, and smiled. "Madame," he said. "I am not picking you up, I am picking you out."

It worked!

* * *

AUNT BEATS!

The very young officer was having a haircut. At the end of that operation the barber inquired: "Anything else, sir?"

"Well," said the officer. "I'd like may moustache trimmed. I'm afraid it's not much of a moustache so far, is it"?

"No sir," agreed the barber with unexpected candour: "as a matter of fact, sir, I've got an aunt in Margate with a better one."

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FUN AND LAUGHTER

MORE PEACEFUL!

"If you want to spend a quiet half-hour," said the native to a visitor, "there's no better place than our art gallery."

"Half a minute," replied the stranger. "I've just started reading about it in the guide book. It says that the visitor, on entering, is struck by a statue of Hercules. Then he is stunned by splendours of the great stair-case. A picture in the first room is full of punch, while further on one is crushed by the overwhelming magnificence of another painting. Finally, brilliant colours run riot everywhere. No, sir; if I want a quiet half-hour, I'll take a boxing lesson."

* * *

NO STAMPEDE

Many were enjoying a picture show in Redondo Bench, California, when suddenly an earthquake struck. For an instant they felt as if the theatre were being carried on the back of a charging elephant. The majority of the audience started from their seats.

In the centre of the theatre a woman stood up. "Don't get excited," she cried shrilly. "Keep your seats, everyone!"

Almost to a person the audience sat down. Then the lady calmly walked out.

* * *

JEST IN TIME

In the good old days, a king and queen were so fond of their court jester that they often had him as their sole dinner guest. On one such occasion, the jester asserted: "An apology can be worse than an insult."

"Either you prove that," remarked the royal host, "or I'll have you beheaded."

After dinner, his Royal Highness leaned over to pet his spaniel. Wham! The jester landed a lusty kick on the royal pants, then quickly cried; "Pardon me, Sire, I thought you were the Queen."

* * *

EASY

A pretty girl taking public service examination had this problem put to her: If a man buys an article for 12:25 dollars and sells it for 9.75 does he gain or lose by the transaction?

The young thing pondered deeply, then answered: "He gains on the cents but loses on the dollars."

* * *

COLD FACT

"The man who gives in when he is wrong," said the street orator, "is a wise man, but he who gives in when he is right is—"

"Married," said a meek voice in the crowd.

VITAL EVIDENCE!

"I understand that you called at the house of the defendant. Is that so?" asked the browbeating lawyer.

"Yes," replied the witness.

"What did he say?" continued the lawyer.

At this point counsel for the other side objected that evidence as to a conversation was not admissible. An hour's argument ensued. Then the Court retired to consider the point, returning after a considerable time to announce the question a proper one.

"Well, what did the defendant say?" repeated the lawyer with a confident smile on his face.

'He wasn't at home, sir," came the answer.

* * *

RETORT COURTEOUS

A certain lift boy in one of the big stores hated to be asked needless questions.

One day a rather fussy old lady entered the lift.

"Don't you ever feel sick going up and down in this lift all day?" she asked.

"Yes, ma'am," said the boy.

"Is it the motion going down?"

"No, ma'am."

"The motion going up?"

"No, Ma'am."

"Is it the stopping that does it?"

"No, Ma'am."

"Then what is it?"

"Answering questions, ma'am."

* * *

DIGNITY & NOISE

The young bride felt that she must use her authority and stop the screams of laughter coming from the kitchen where her daily help had apparently got company.

Opening the kitchen door, she said with great dignity: "Mrs. Potts, would you mind making a little less noise, please?"

"I'm sorry, missus," was the reply, "but my friend here couldn't stop laughing. I was telling her how you tried to make a cake yesterday morning."

* * *

COMPLIMENT

The minister was leaving the church after the evening service when a member of his congregation stopped him and said: "I like to come to church when you are preaching."

"I'm glad to hear that," replied the minister. "It's nice to know that somebody appreciates my sermons."

"Oh, it's not," replied the woman. "I mean, it's so easy to get a seat, even when I arrive late."

TOO LATE!

After trying in vain to get a house, Brown set out one morning with a find-a-house-or-die look on his face. He wandered about all day without being successful, till at last his steps led him to the river.

"Ah!" he said, in utter despair, "how tempting it looks!"

Suddenly he heard a splash, and looking round, he saw his friend, Green struggling in the water. Without attempting to save him, he rushed off to the local house agent.

"Quick," he gasped, "Green has fallen into the river. Can I have his house?"

"Sorry, sir," said the house agent. "I've already let it to the man who pushed him in."

* * *

The old fashioned girl who darned her husband's socks now has a daughter who socks her darned husband.

* * *

WISE GUY

A soldier called at the chaplain's office. "I just came to ask you," he said, "whether you think it's right for any person to profit by the mistakes of others?

"Most certainly not"

The soldier brightened and out his hand. "Then perhaps you'll return the dollar I gave you last June for marrying me!"

* * *

SIGNS OF THE TIME

A sign in an Oakland restaurant reads: "Due to conditions beyond our control our means, our service and our attitude are not what they should be."

Sign in a Detroit boarding house: Bed to let, 7 a.m. at noon. Strictly private."

CORRECTION!

After a busy life, an old-time Yankee died. The first thing he knew, a butler in another world was showing him a palatial guest room saying: This, sir, is your suite. The only rule here is: "You ring, and I bring. Just press that button and I will provide whatever your heart desires."

About a month later, the Yankee sat in his easy chair surrounded by cigars, decanters, shotguns, fishing rods, radio, and all else that a man could wish.

But there was fire in his eye. He fabbed the buzzer. The butler appeared.

"Here you! I want something to do. I want WORK."

"Sorry, sir, but work is the only thing we do not provide here."

"What, if I can't work, I would just as soon go to hell."

"But, sir," replied the butler, "where did you think you were?"

—Readers Digest.

News Bits

What Price Allegiance?

According to NEWSWEEK manazine the South Korean authorities recently staged a tradition-hallowed political spectacle during one of the anti-Japanese demonstrations in Seoul. What they did was to recruit about three dozen criminals serving time in the capital's prisons who agreed to cut off several fingers before the eyes of the crowd to demonstrate their "patriotism" and "allegiance" to the Park Chung Hee regime. As promised, they were paid from $125 to $375 for every finger. The weekly does not say how many fingers were cut off.

* * *

Overtaxed

Deeply indignant at the way he thought he was being overtaxed, Victor Lester, of Stockton (California, U.S.A.) resorted to a method very much in vogue in his state — and not only that — to rectify the alleged injustice. He broke into the city's finance department and, waving a stick of dynamite, took the—inspector as a hostage. After three hours of negotiations as a result of which the finance department promised to look into the matter, Lester gave himself up. The police established that there was no fuse in the stick of dynamite.

* * *

Simple Solution

The night police patrol thought there was something suspicious about the car which had stopped in the outskirts of the little Swiss town of Nanikon. They decided to search it and found three speed limit road signs in the boot. The owner confessed that he had exceeded the speed limit while driving through the town and noticed that he had been caught by a radar traffic control device. Anticipating trouble, he removed the speed limit road signs in in order to be able to tell the police that there were none on the road.

* * *

A Misspelt Miss

Nineteen-year-old Vincenza Costa of the little Italian town of Voghera was very much surprised when she received call-up papers—military service does not extend to women in Italy. It was due to a mistake in the birth certificate, where her name was given as Vincenzo. At the recruiting station she was never theless told to get a paper from the police and a medical examination certificate providing that she is not a "he".

Comments By Vishnu

Re-Visioned

A woman wrote to a doctor who had been treating her husband: "Ever since my husband started going to you, he's become a different man. He used to be a wonderful husband, father and provider. He was handy around the house.

He adored me, considered me one of the most beautiful women in the world. Now, he scarcely looks at me, and he disregards the children. And frankly, doctor, I think he's become a woman-chaser. My feeling is that you have been giving him shots that have changed his personality."

The doctor wrote back: "Dear Madam. As regards your husband, I have been treating him with nothing. I merely prescribed for him a pair of contact lenses."

(*Coursley : Probe 1974*)

No Cartoons Please in A Neutral Paper

The editor of a renowned vernacular paper determined to follow a middle line always sent for a noted cartoonist to draw for it. The following conversation took place.

Editor: Now we would like you to draw political cartoons for us but we pursue a via media policy and so the cartoons must be tailored to suit our Neutral political views.

Cartoonist: Shall we make some jokes at the expense of the ruling party?

Ed: That would be most unwise because we don't wish to annoy them and then have them shut off our newsprint supplies which will deprive us of a valuable source of income and might even mean closing down our paper.

Cst: Very well, then let us have some fun at the expense of the opposition?

Ed: "That wouldn't be prudent either because tomorrow the leader of the opposition may well become a leader of the Government and we will suffer.

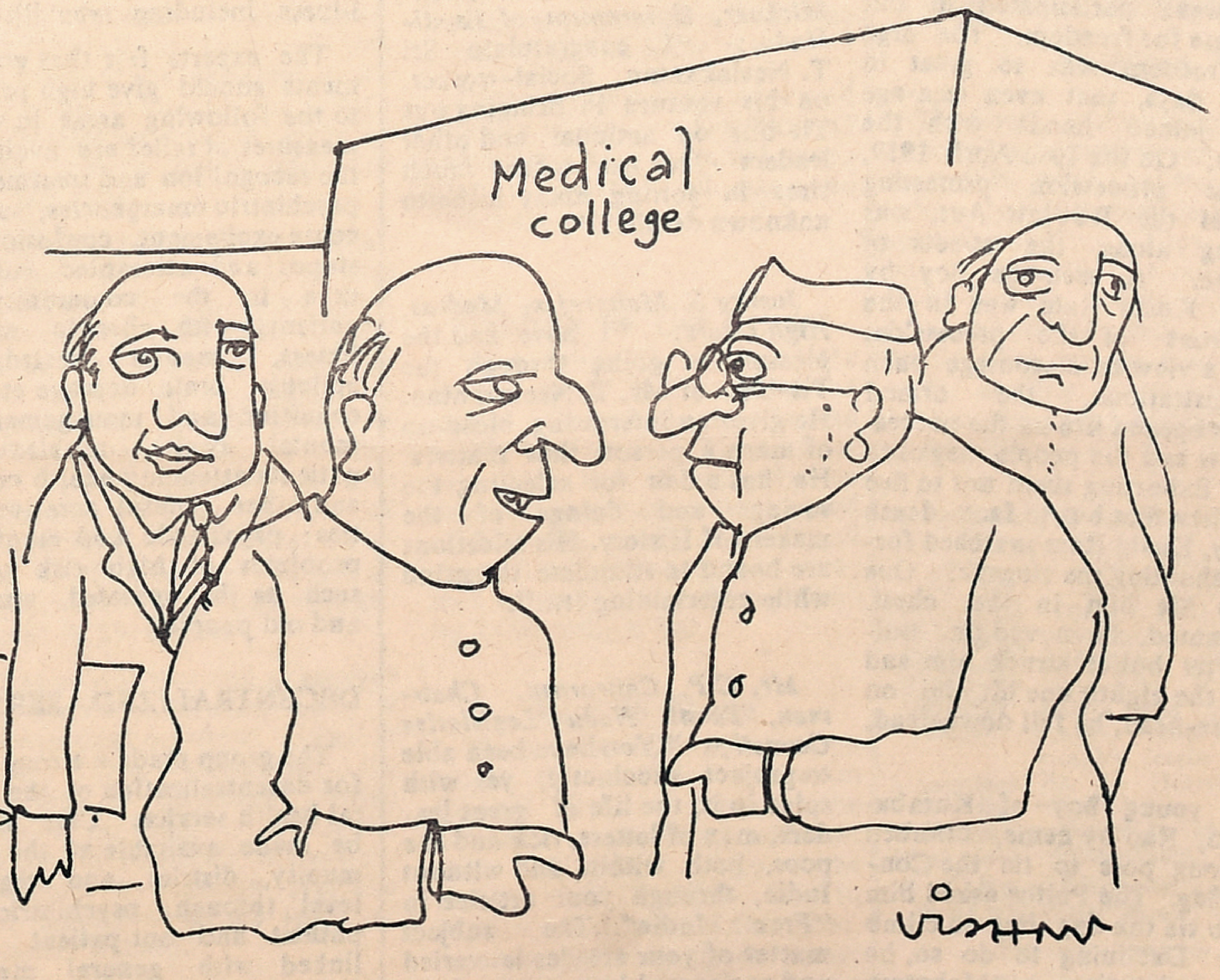
So the cartoonist scratched his head and thought and thought and finally came up with a drawing. He depicted the leader of the Government and the leader of the opposition. He boldly wrote their names beneat each so that the readers could identify whom they were meant to represent. Unfortunately by an error he interchanged the christian and surnames of each of them. This was quite inadvertent of course but when the editor looked at it for a long time he thought to himself. "This looks an innocuous cartoon. I don't see any meaning in it. There is nothing subtle nor can one by any stretch of imagination read any undertones." But he overlooked the error by which the second names of each had been switched (inadvertently).

Next day the cartoon appeared on the foot of the third page a spread across half a column. Those readers who noticed it obtained a hand lens to see it but they could make nothing of its purpose. So they began to speculate.

The leader of the opposition thought that the purpose of the cartoon must be to redicule them but felt that he was not intellectually gifted enough to understand it. So he led a non-violent procession to protest against it. Rowdy elements infiltrated the procession on the way and wrecked the press. When this was set right, the leader of the ruling party who had been studying the cartoon for nearly a whole week decided finally that it probably was intended to redicule the ruling party. So the result was that the newsprint supplies were cut off and the paper suffered greatly.

The proprietor of the paper considered the whole episode in its entirety and decided that it was safer not to carry any cartoons in the paper and to use the half column space to carry an advertisement that would be at least a scource of revenue. Thus once again a via media was preserved.

The moral of the story is that you can write and write away to your heart's content and keep the via media but you can't draw a cartoon that can satisfy everybody and keep everyone in good humour!



"We are suffering from an acute shortage of staff because they've all gone to the villages in response to our rousing call..."

(*Courtesy, Modern Medicine and Surgery, Bombay 1973*)

Tit-Bits On Men And Matters

By T. NEELAKANTAN

(General Knowledge Agency)

SWAMI VIVEKANANDA AND 'UPPUMAV'

When Swami Vivekananda was touring in Tamil Nadu, one of his disciples brought 'uppumav' and requested him to taste it. Swamiji asked him as to what it was. The disciple said that it was 'uppumav'. Swamiji enquired as to what was meant by 'uppumav'. He and the other disciples were finding it difficult to explain it. A student of mathematics was there then and he said:– 'Swamiji, uppumav means halwa minus sugar but plus salt". This explanation did not help Swamiji to have a clear idea of 'uppumav'. So, he tasted it. After tasting it, he liked it so much that he felt that 'uppumav' like halwa deserved an important place among dishes In this connecion, it should be mentioned that Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose liked 'rasam' of Tamil Nadu so much that he wanted it to become the national soup of our country.

TEENAGE MARTYRS

When our country was under the rule of the English, the educuted and the uneducated, the rich and the poor, the townsman and the villager, the strong and the weak participated in our struggle for freedom. The urge for freedom was so great in those days, that even teen-age boys joined hands with the elders. On the 19th April 1919, a huge procession protesting against the Rowlatt Act, was passing along the streets of Lahore. A teen-age boy by name Kushi Ram was in the fore-front of the procession. With a view to discourage such demonstrations, the armed troops opened fire on the processionists and the people began to run. Exhorting them not to flee away like flies but to face death boldly, Kushi Ram marched forward shouting the slogans. One bullet hit him in the chest. Undaunted, he moved on. Bullet after bullet struck him and when the eighth one hit him on his fore-head, he fell down dead.

An young boy of Kumbakonam, Rao by name, climbed up a long pole to tie the Congress flag. The Police asked him not to tie the flag but to climb down. Declining to do so, he was shouting "Mahatma Gandhiki-jai". The Police shot at him. He fell down from a great height and died. Hemu Ghalani, another teen-age boy, was shot dead in Karachi for his participation in the political agitation.

During the days of the "Boycott of Foreign Goods" movement, a lorry full of foreign cloths was ready to start from a bazaar in Bombay. Babu Ghanu, an young boy, stretched himself before the front wheels of the lorry, protesting against the sale of foreign cloths. In spite of requests and warnings, he did not get up. Then the lorry moved and Babu Ghanu was crushed to death. Through the sufferings and sacrifices of patriotic youngsters, men and women, we are now enjoying political independence. This independence should ever be retained by us. There should, therefore, be unity and affinity a mongst us, without the distinctions of religion and region, community and caste

WORDS OF PRAISE

This serial "Tit-Bits On Men and Matters" by T. Neelakantan has been praised by many eminent personalities as very useful to one and all. We give below a few of them:

Mr. M.A. Manickavelu, ex-Minister, Government of Tamil-Nadu,:- "I congratulate Sri T. Neelakantan, Social-worker. on his venture in bringing out Tit-bits on national and other leaders He has taken much time in getting many hitherto unknown details...".

Justice S. Maharajan, Madras, High Court:– "I have had the pleasure of going through the Tit-bits of Mr. T. Neelakantan. He gives an interesting close-up of many a person that matters. He has a flair for selecting the sayings and doings of the makers of History. His selections are bound to stimulate the mind while entertaining it...".

Mr. C.P. Chitrarasu, Chairman, Tamil Nadu Legislative Council;– "You have been able to project succinctly, yet with spice in it, the life of great leaders, men of letters, rich and the poor, both within and without India, through your articles in "Free India"...The subject matter of your articles is varied and variegated in nature and the articles are thought provoking...".

Mental Illness: A Major World Problem

There are at least 40 million people in the world suffering from serious mental disorders which are not treated;

At least 10 per cent of every population at some period in their lives suffer servere disablement and incapacity from mental disorders;

More than 90 per cent of the population of the developing world receives practically no mental health service;

In many developing countries 50 per cent of the population are under the age of 15; in most cases there is no provision to meet the mental health need of this group.

These are some of the facts that faced the "Who" Expert Committee on Mental Health which concluded last week its meeting on the organization of mental health services in the developing countries.

There was consensus among the experts that mental disorders are one of the most important health problems in developing and developed countries. The needs for mental health care should not be regarded as separate from but an integral part of the general health needs of a community.

MEANS AVAILABLE

Effective means are available today to modify or control a wide range of psychiatric disorders. What is lacking are methods by which existing knowledge can be applied in the prevention and treatment of mental illness including rehabilitation.

The experts felt that governments should give high priority to the following areas in which measures of relief are available: the recognition and treatment of psychiatric emergencies, such as acute excitement, confusion and stupor and attempted suicide; care in the community of patients with chronic mental illness, mental retardation, epilepsy, brain damage etc; recognition and management of mental health problems of patients attending health centres and other general curative centres; psychiatric and emotional problems of high risk groups such as the uprooted, students and old people.

DECENTRALIZED SERVICE

The group made a strong plea for decentralization of the mental health service. Care should be made available at the community, district and regional level through psychiatric in-patient and out-patient units linked with general medical facilities. Mental health tasks should be introduced in the duties of the primary health worker in the developing countries.

The mental health service should seek the collaboration of non medical people such as religious leaders, teachers, development workers, and groups such as the police and social welfare organizations. Health professionals should devote part of their time to the mental health education of these community workers.

Some other points that emerged during the discussion:

— Each country should formulate a national policy on mental health;

— There should be a mental health department within each country's national or regional health administration;

— All health workers should include certain tasks of basic mental health care as part of their normal work;

— The training of mental health professional should include instruction on training non-specialized health workers;

— Data collection should be an integral part of every mental health care system;

— The training of mental health professionals should take place in their own countries or failing this, in their own culture area;

— Research centres should be set up at national or regional level which would offer training in research methods of various kinds.

———

Commended And Suspended

Police Sergeant Elmer McIntosh of Poria (Illinois, U.S.) made short work of two gunmen trying to rob a shop. He broke the holdup by hitting one of them over the head with a milk bottle. He was commended for frustrating the robbery and at the same time suspended from duty for violating a regulation requiring policemen to be armed at all times.

• • •

Words, Words, Words

Residents of Northport (U.S.A) have founded a chess club for men only. They weren't womanhaters, they said but women just couldn't keep their mouths closed while playing. Incidentally, one researcher has established that the average woman speaks 12,620 words a day, businessman—11,580, policeman—10,660, priest—3,423, and monk—860.

BREZHNEV'S VISIT TO FRANCE

L. I. Brezhnev, General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, made further advance in his mission of peace and friendship when he paid a visit to France last week to meet the French President Mr. Valery Giscard d'Estaing and discuss with him problems of mutual interest. An agreement on economic cooperation between the USSR and the French Republic for period of 1975–79 was signed in Chateau De Rambouillet.

Protocols on the expansion of Soviet-French Cooperation in the field of economy and industry for a term of ten years, an agreement on the terms of crediting the export of machines and equipment from France to the USSR for a five-year period and an agreement on additional deliveries of natural gas from the USSR to France were also signed.

Talking to pressmen after signing the documents, Mr. Brezhnev said that they were of exceptional importance.

The agreement provides for encouragement by the Soviet Union and France of the initiative aimed at the development of industrial cooperation including joint production, between competent enterprises and organisations of the two countries. "Recognising the importance of questions of financing for the development of economic relations, both sides will make efforts for granting credits on the most favourable terms within the framework of their relative legislations."

Soviet political commentators point out that the visit of Mr. Brezhnev has taken place at a significant time for both countries. For, this year marked the 50th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Soviet Union and France. A number of functions devoted to this anniversary are being held in many cities of France, with delegations and artistic companies from the Soviet Union taking part in them.

It may be recalled that as early as the 1920s, the then French Premier, Eduard Erriot had stressed, while initiating the establishment of diplomatic relations with the young Soviet Republic, that "friendship with Soviet Union is necessary to maintain stable peace". And Leonid Brezhnev said in Paris on October 20, 1971: "Concern for consolidating peace—that is what, above all unites the Soviet Union and France." The new President of France, Mr. Giscard d'Estaing, has also said: "I attach the greatest importance to this cooperation and, on my own part, am fully determined to continue and develop it".

Thus, the Soviet-French relations have become a real and influential factor in Europe and in the entire international life. The USSR and France are taking particular care to keep up the pace gained by detente in Europe and the progress of the all-European conference.

* * *

250 PAINTINGS BY ROERICH ON VIEW IN MOSCOW

250 of the finest paintings of Nikolai Roerich—canvases from the best Soviet museums and private collections—are exhibited in the USSR Academy of Arts, to mark the birth centenary of the great painter who was also an international public figure and architect of Soviet–Indian friendship. N. Roerich was educated in the best traditions of Russian art and remained faithfull to them all his life. *130* of the paintings in the exhibition belong to the artist's son Sviatoslav Roerich, many of which are on public show for the first time.

Dr. K.S. Shelvankar, India's Ambassador to the USSR who participated in the inaugural function stressed that Nikolai Roerich was able to grasp the spirit of the Indian people and to gain a deep insight into the life and philosophy of India. The Ambassador noted that Roerich had a fine perception of the spiritual and cultural closeness of the Russian and Indian peoples and that they were reflected in his works.

The colourful world of ancient Rus comes to life on many of the paintings on view. Another subject that dominates the paintings is Himalayas which enables millions to see India. Nature in Roerich's canvases is enlivened by human presence and inbued with the spirit of ancient legends.

Mr. V. Popov, Deputy Minister of Culture of the USSR, who inaugurated the exhibition said that Roerich started a whole epoch in creative quests of our time.

* * *

YOUNG INVENTORS ON THE TOP

The first Soviet children's hobby centre was opened in Moscow in 1926.

There youngsters were kept busy designing model aircraft and radio sets.

Several million children now belong to a wide variety of such centres, making more and more complex models with the help of skilled instructors.

The older children often produce genuine innovations and inventions.

Youngsters from 14 to 17 design cars and scooters, motor boats and aerosleighs.

In the villages children build miniature farm machines which they operate on school plots.

It is common to find original designs of tractors, ploughs, cultivators and sprinklers.

The system includes engineering centres run by ministry of Education, trade union clubs, young technicians' centres at factories and circles at railways, ports and motor depots.

All these activities are free and are based on the principle of voluntary participation.

Equipment comes from the state, from clubs and other groups.

The Ministry of Education now has more than 30,000 technical circles functioning outside schools.

More than 1,300 clubs at factories, financed by the trade unions, use instructors from the engineers at the plant.

Older children do advanced projects at modern factories and exhibitions are organised every year at which diplomas and prizes are awarded.

Rabbits To The Rescue

"Eat rabbit to sustain the lira." Such is the gist of an appeal launched by Italian rabbit-breeders. They have calculated that if every Italian eats 100 grammes of home-bred rabbit a day instead of imported meat, it will improve the country's ailing balance of payments by 7,000 million lire.

* * *

One To Three

The anti-alcoholism campaign which the British Education Council plans to run in the northeast of England will cost about £100,000, reports the weekly "OBSERVER". And in the first six months of this year, it adds, brewers spent more than three times as much on advertising there.

News Bits

Expensive Protest

Italian motorist Bragio Cariello chose a novel way to protest against the increase in the automobile tax: he set his car afire in front of a crowd of people. It cost him quite a bit. The authorities ruled that he would have to pay not only the tax but also the fire brigade summoned to put out the blaze. What is more, he learned much to his regret that he could not claim insurance for the ruined vehicle.

* * *

Of Music, Musicians And Tomatoes

How does music affect the performer? Here is what a group of West German psychiatrists found. They examined 208 musicians and came to the conclusion that performers of classical music are generally even-tempered people and those who often perform modernistic music are nervous, irritable and querulous.

* * *

After years of experimenting, reports the Paris "Figaro" British vegetable-grower Charlie Roberts has established that hothouse tomatoes and other vegetables grow much faster and brighter if he plays the record "Love Romance" outside the hothouse twice a day. Some of his tomatoes, he says, weigh as much as two kilogrammes. Roberts' experiments with rock 'n' roll records have produced a reverse effect: the leaves shrivel and the plants droop.

* * *

The Colour Of Noise Mufflers

The South African Ministry of Labour has instructed employers to supply personnel working in extremely noisy conditions with special mufflers. They should be of four different colours, it said—for the whites, Africans, Indians and Coloureds. Heaven forbid that a white man should wear mufflers used the day before by an African or a Coloured!

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FREE INDIA, DECEMBER 15, 1974

Aval Oru Thodar Kathai

By M. A. SRINIVASAN

Have you ever seen a walking flame? Those who have witnessed forest fires would have observed the flames travelling in the direction of the wind consuming everything on its way and striking terror all round. No one can approach it and no one can put it out. Of such type is the heroine Kavitha in K. Balachander's latest picture "Aval Oru Thodar Kathai".

When "Arangetram", in which the heroine goes astray for the sake of supporting and maintaining her family, was released, critics were not wanting, who said, that though the heroine drew all sympathy Balachandar would have done better if he had portrayed a lady who preserved her virtue against all odds and at the same time did her duty to her family. And that is exactly what he has done in this picture.

The members of Kavitha's family are types by themselves. A father who turns ascetic with no concern for his household, a brother notorious for his laziness and an addict to liquor, an unfortunate sister who is a widow and a blind younger brother, it is such a family that she serves, maintains and controls. By her stern and impeccable conduct she makes every one tremble before her and even the crying baby is silenced at her sight. Inspite of her rough dominating exterior, her heart is full of love and kindness.

But she is capable of love in the romantic sense too and yearns to marry a rich young man Thilak, and relieve herself of the burden of maintaining the family. But somehow love develops between Thilak and her widowed sister and when she discovers the same she willingly sacrifices her own desires and gets them married. That is first chapter.

So she continues in her job and in course of time, her won office boss Gosh offers to marry her. She agrees to the proposal and all arrangements are afoot for the marriage, when her brother is killed in an accident. She immediately changes her mind and arranges for the marriage of her sister with Gosh. And once again, she is obliged to take the role of the head of the family and thus her story turns out to be a serial.

Sujatha as Kavitha steals the show by her consummate and powerful acting. Sripriya as the widowed sister is modestly personified and evokes all our sympathy. Jai Ganesh plays the drunken brother convincingly while Kamala Hasan dons the role of "Vikatakavi" providing a lot of mirth and entertainment. Vijayakumar and Ramakrishna are Kavitha's first and second lovers. 'Padapal' Jayalakshmi, Vinodhini, Pushpa, Leelavathi and Devaki are also in the cast and do their parts well but one cannot help feeling that too many new faces in the same picture often leads to a little confusion in following the story and audiences always like happy blending of old and new faces.

Music by M S Viswanathan set to songs composed by Kannadasan is good. Photography by Lokanathan maintains a high standard. To the original story by M.S. Perumal, Balachander has written the screenplay and dialogues and his deft direction can be seen in every frame. The innovation of scissors and shadows to express the feelings of characters, the display of flowers and Sripriya by turns, the final scenes without dialogues which are more eloquent than words, are some of the highights of the picture. The film produced by Rama Arangannal for Andal Pictures is another feather in Balachander's cap and will live long in one's memory.

From page 3

being in the right direction. The claims by the three States were so conflicting that adjudication of the dispute could never have any finality about it, even assuming that it was possible.

But a common approach to the problem of using the Cauvery basin as the backbone of agriculture in the entire region carried with it the guarantee about protection of the "existing rights" of all the States and proper utilisation of the Cauvery waters. The surprise is not over the decision to create the CVA, but over its delay hitherto. Perhaps there had to develop a situation of acute confrontation for a drastic remedy to emerge.

LINKING SOUTHERN RIVERS

The CVA may also be the harbinger of a comprehensive "economic region" in the South Already a proposal has been made for linking the southern rivers, Krishna, Godavary, Tungabhadra and the Cauvery. Work on a common southern grid of hydel sources is already on hand. The prospect of linking the Ganges with the Cauvery still remains a dream, in view of its prohibitive cost at current prices, amounting to Rs 50,000 crores. But, the work on linking the major southern rivers can be accommodated within the Plan allocations made to the States in the South, and can be completed within a decade.

After the Delhi conference, Chief Minister Karunanidhi seems to have became more circumspect. He needs to remain so because harsh utterances in public have already done enough damage.

Kunwara Baap:

Manorama's Maiden Hindi Film

Kunwara Baap, meaning bachelor father, has Manorama, the uncrowned comedy queen of the Tamil filmdom, doing a leading role, and as expected she has proved her worth. She is teamed with the Hindi comedian Mahmood who also has directed the film.

Mahesh, a poor rickshaw wala, loves Sheela, a neighbour of his in the slum where he lives. Sheela in turn likes him very much. They hoped to get married.

But fate willed otherwise.

One fine morning when Mahesh went to the temple to offer worship, he saw a tiny baby boy laid on the steps of the temple, crying. Thinking that the child's mother is inside the temple only, he took the baby and consoled it. As The child ceased crying he left the child where it was and started to leave the place when the pujari and a policeman, who happened to pass that way, forced him to take the child with him thinking that the child was his.

Thus he was saddled with a tiny child. While in his custody the child had a stroke of polio and Mahesh felt that it was all because of his neglect. Hence he dicided to bring up the child giving him the best of education and what not. And so he vowed not to marry.

Years rolled by, till one day the parents of the child discovered that their long lost baby is with Mahesh. Mahesh is forced to part with the child, now a grown up teenager, by a court order. But the boy could not stay in his new place and sneaks out to meet his guardian angel. But when he reaches his old place he found his eastwhile guardian lying in the clutches of the demon death.

Vinod Mehra and Bharathi are cast as parents of the illfated child very convincingly.

Makky, son of actor director Mahmood, is introduced to the filmworld in the picture. As the lame boy he has acted very well and made everyone of the audience sympathise with his plight. He is particularly impressive in the scene where he tries to compete in the running race to please his father.

Veteran actor Mahmood who in the earlier scenes made audience roar with laughter virtually made them weep in the last scence by his powerful portrayal.

Produced by Amarlal P. Chhabria for Balaji Arts the eastman colour movie has music scored by Rajesh Roshan which is pleasing throughout. Majrooh Sultanpuri has composed the lyrics.

Film On Ballerina Anna Pavlova: Soviet-American Co-production

The life of the famous Russian ballerina Anna Pavlova (1881–1931) will be presented to the art-loving public of the world through a feature film on her by the end of next year. It will be a joint production by the Paramount motion picture company of the United States and the Sovinfilm All-Union Association of the USSR. A preliminary agreement to this effect has already been signed.

As prima ballerina of the Maryinski Opera and Ballet Theatre in St Petersburg (now known as the Kirov State Academic Opera and Ballet Theatre in Leningrad) she performed on the stages of many countries abroad. The distinguished art of Anna Pavlova as a ballet dancer helped give new iife to ballet outside Russia, and urged the first ballet masters and dancers of Great Britain, America, Australia and other countries to stage performances of their own. She learnt Indian dances also when she visited India. It may be recalled that even Mrs. Rukmini Devi of Kalakshetra, Madras, was inspired by Anna Pavlova and learnt ballet dance directly under the latter.

There are many photographs of Anna Pavlova in the archives and the reminiscences of her contemporaries are enthusiastic. On the basis of these materials the British script writer Anthony Masters has written the script for the feature film.

Under the terms of the agreement the parts of Anna Pavlova and her partners—Volinine, Nijinski and Mordkin and of the ballet master Fokine will be played by Soviet actresses and actors. Well known Western film stars will play the roles of the impressario Victor Dandre, the conductor of Anna Pavlova's own touring company Theodore Steyer and the eminent Russian impressario and art critic Serge Diaghileff.

The members of the ballet companies of the Moscow Bolshoi and Leningrad Theatre at which Anna Pavlova danced in her day will take part in the film. Scenes will be taken in the USSR, USA and Great Britain.

From page 2

a month, and that the newly-weds got flats from the factory. She said that the factory was building a lot of houses.

"As for your last question, I am afraid, it is not easy to answer," she said.

"You may be surprised, but I must say, that I continue my studies even now. I think one must keep on studying all through life, girls," she said with a smile.

Vera's working life began early. She was the seventh child in a peasant family. She finished seven grades and went to work as an apprentice at the shoe factory.

Ten years passed and Vera surpassed her teacher who had always held the first place at the factory before. Vera, like most of her colleagues, considers it her duty to make her achievements accessible to the entire collective. Work for her is not only the means of subsistence, but a moral necessity.

For her achievements in production Vera has been awarded the title of Hero of Socialist Labour, the highest labour award in the Soviet Union.

"My mother kept asking me: 'Why are you sitting there reading for the whole night? Do you have to work so much? You earn more than enough. Nobody in our village of Ryzhkanovka has ever earned so much."

She was right, for, nobody in Ryzhkanovka had ever earned so much. But Ryzhkanovka has also changed beyond recognition. First, it turned into a construction site and then it became a new district of Kishinev. Soon Vera's mother stopped wondering. Her seven children studied and worked, they all became engineers, bakers, teachers or agronomists.

She was not surprised when she learned that her Vera had become Vice-President of the Presidium of Moldavia's Supreme Soviet.

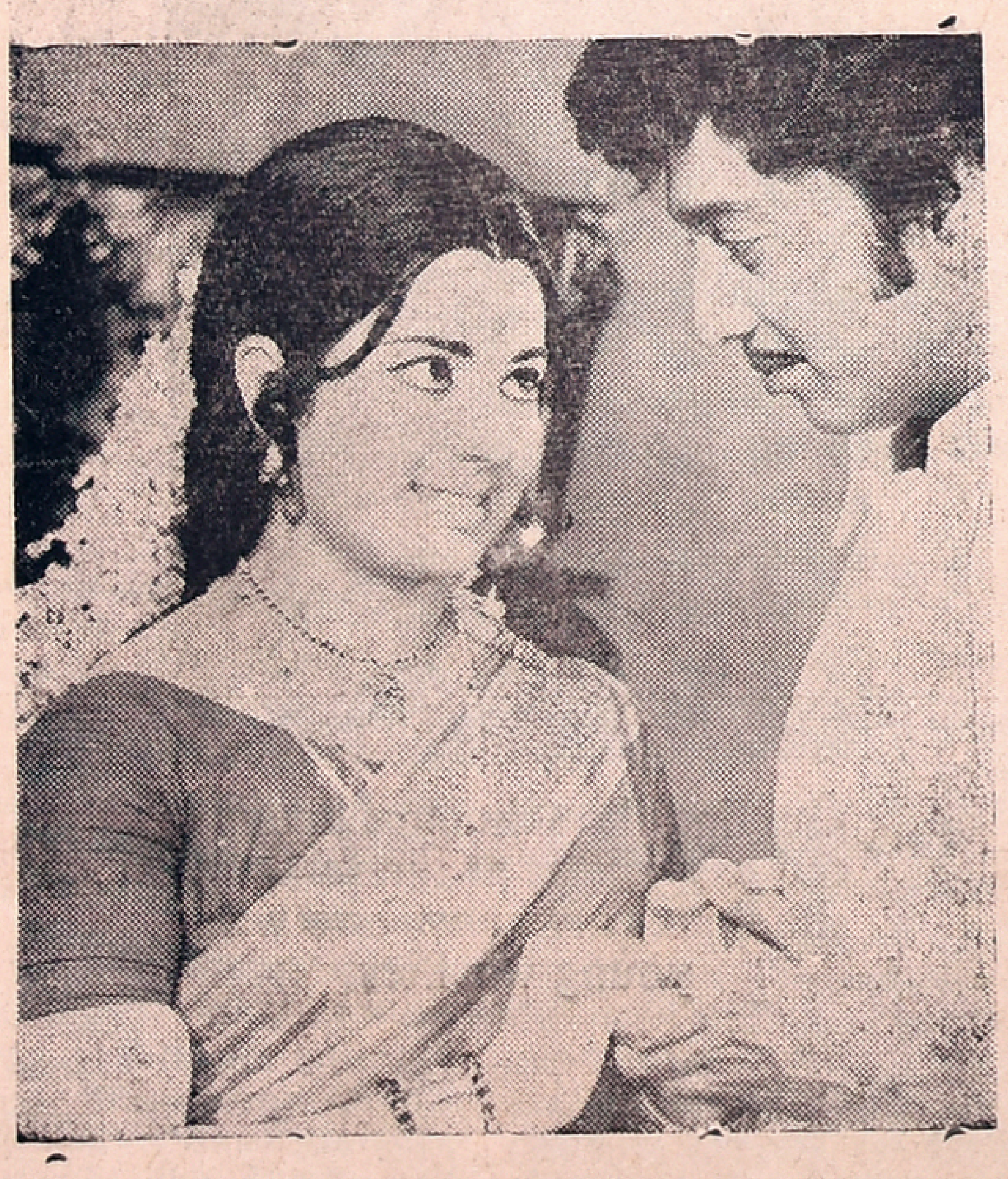
★

VERA ODOBESKU: a frequent guest at a vocational school where future workers for the Zorile firm are trained.

Guiding the school of advanced experience at the factory, she shares her know-how with young workers.

Film News In Pictures

Rajasri as she appears in the film "Karunai Kadal Kirusthu".



Jaya and Muthuraman in "Manjal Mugame Varuga".

Jayachitra adorned with bridal dress in "Sonthangal Vazhga".

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